

# Support processing and organisation

A suggestion for implementing the strategy  
'Helpful classroom strategies years 9-13 ' from  
the Guide: [Autism and learning](#)

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## **Includes:**

- Provide structure
- Support thinking in multiple ways
- Use graphic organisers
- Support concentration
- Support time management
- Useful resources

Inclusive Education

From

Guide: [Autism and learning](#)

Strategy: [Helpful classroom strategies years 9-13](#)

Suggestion: [Support processing and organisation](#)

Date

04 June 2026

Link

[inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/autism-and-learning/support-processing-and-organisation-2](http://inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/autism-and-learning/support-processing-and-organisation-2)

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## Provide structure

Make learning intentions and expectations explicit at the outset.



Video hosted on Vimeo <http://vimeo.com/100662364>

Closed Captions

Source:

[Ministry of Education, inclusive education \(NZ\)](#)

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## Support thinking in multiple ways

- ✓ Highlight patterns, critical features and relationships.
- ✓ Use cultural and narrative frameworks to support retention and thinking.
- ✓ Use visuals, 3D manipulatives, outlines, flowcharts, and real objects.
- ✓ Use mind maps to brainstorm ideas and make connections.
- ✓ Support group and class discussions with visual annotations to prompt later recall of key ideas.
- ✓ Offer ākonga a variety of graphic organisers and flowcharts to support thinking.
- ✓ Give ākonga multiple opportunities to engage with new ideas and concepts.
- ✓ Provide extra time for ākonga to think and process before responding.

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## Use graphic organisers

What do they look like?

Where do they live?

BATS  
What are they?

What do they eat?

What do they do?

[View full image \(34 KB\)](#)

Highlight patterns and break down tasks with graphic organisers. See examples at [Free graphic organizer templates by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt](#).

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## Support concentration

Provide options to support concentration and minimise distractions.

- ✓ Monitor and moderate the classroom for visual and auditory distractions.
- ✓ Encourage learners to adapt the environment to meet their needs by, for example, wearing headphones, moving to a quiet environment or taking a walk to support their thinking.
- ✓ Present information in a range of ways over an extended period of time to help learners to retain information, build their understanding and stay focused.
- ✓ Discuss with ākonga the effectiveness of the classroom and make modifications and remove barriers where needed.
- ✓ Use of visual prompts and cues to support understanding and access to learning materials.
- ✓ Make links to background knowledge or previous learning to increase connections.
- ✓ Schedule regular short breaks for physical movement.

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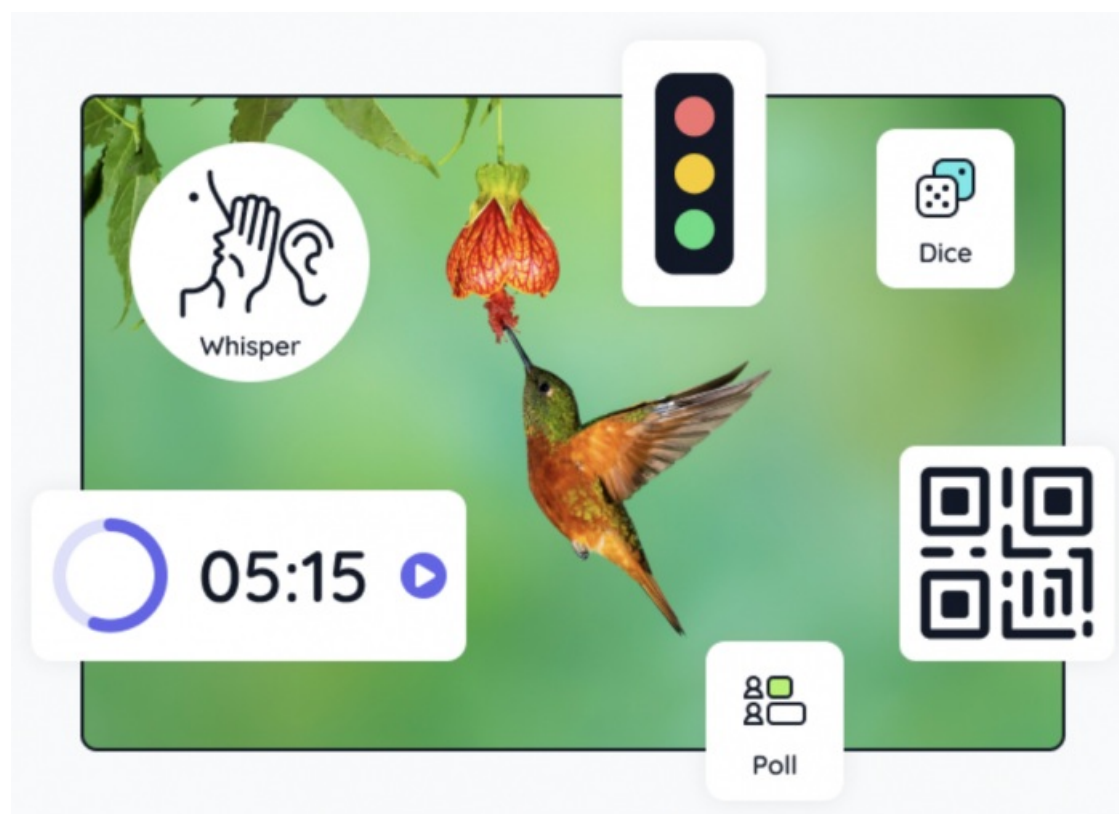
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## Support time management



[View full image \(679 KB\)](#)

Introduce tools such as visual timers to reduce surprise that an activity is over or to signal that a transition is coming.

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## Useful resources



### Classroomscreen

Classroomscreen is a simple online tool that can be displayed onscreen as students complete tasks. The free version includes 19 widgets.

Publisher: Classroomscreen

[Visit website](#)



### Popplet

Popplet is a tool for the iPad and web to capture and organise ideas.

Publisher: Notion

[Visit website](#)

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